

REMARKS

Applicants are amending Claim 1, canceling Claims 2-80 without prejudice or disclaimer, and adding new Claims 81-103 in order to clarify the claimed invention.

Applicants will address each of the Examiner's rejections in the order in which they appear in the Final Rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

Claims 1-4, 11-14, 21-24, 31-34, 41-44, 51-54, 61-64 and 71-74

In the Final Rejection, the Examiner rejects Claims 1-4, 11-14, 21-24, 31-34, 41-44, 51-54, 61-64 and 71-74 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as being anticipated by Kubota et al. (US 6,067,066). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

While Applicants traverse this rejection, in order to advance the prosecution of this application and clarify the claimed invention, Applicants are amending independent Claim 1 to recite the features of “a circuit for converting m-bit digital video data into 2^{m-n} pieces of n-bit digital video data (where m and n are both positive integers greater than or equal to 2, and $m > n$), wherein an image for one frame is formed by displaying 2^{m-n} pieces of subframes formed by the n-bit digital data.”

In the Final Rejection, the Examiner alleges that Kubota discloses the claimed display device and in particular that Kubota teaches “a circuit for converting m bit digital video data into n bit digital video data for gradation voltage, and for supplying said source driver with said n-bit digital video data (m and n are both positive integers equal to or larger than 2, $m > n$)”, and “obtaining $(2m - (2m - n - 1))$ patterns of gradation display” (citing figures 1, 14 or 24, and column 23, lines 15-67 in

Kubota). The Examiner also contends that “one frame of image consists of 2^{m-n} subframes” and cites column 25, lines 15-28 in Kubota.

Applicants disagree and respectfully submit that Kubota does not teach that one frame of image consists of 2^{m-n} subframes and obtaining $(2^m - (2^{m-n} - 1))$ patterns of gradation display. Further, the cited passage in Kubota does not support the Examiner’s contention. If the Examiner disagrees, it is respectfully requested that he provide a detailed explanation of how Kubota shows this feature.

Further, it is respectfully submitted that Kubota does not disclose or suggest the claimed feature of converting m-bit digital video data into 2^{m-n} pieces of n-bit digital video data (where m and n are both positive integers greater than or equal to 2, and $m > n$), wherein an image for one frame is formed by displaying 2^{m-n} pieces of subframes formed by the n-bit digital data.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the cited reference fails to disclose or suggest the claimed invention. Therefore, the claims are patentable over Kubota, and it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

The Examiner also rejects Claims 5-10, 15-20, 25-30, 35-40, 45-50, 55-60, 65-70 and 75-80 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kubota et al. in view of Takano et al. (US 6,165,824), Sasaki et al. (US 6,459,416) and Hasegawa et al. (US 6,335,717). This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

While Applicants traverse this rejection, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants are canceling the rejected claims without prejudice or disclaimer, rendering this rejection moot. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

New Claims

Applicants are also adding new Claims 81-103. It is respectfully requested that these new claims be entered and examined at this time. If any fee should be due for these new claims, please charge our deposit account 50/1039.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants are preparing an information disclosure statement (IDS) and will submit it in the very near future. It is respectfully requested that this IDS be entered and considered by the Examiner.

Telephone Interview Request

The undersigned requests a telephone interview with the Examiner to discuss this case. The undersigned will call the Examiner in a couple of weeks (after the Examiner has a chance to review this amendment) to discuss this case. If the Examiner has a chance to review the amendment prior to the undersigned's call and wishes to immediately discuss, please contact the undersigned.

Conclusion


It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and should be allowed.

If any fee is due for this amendment, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-1039.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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